IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

| Appln. Ser. No.: | Filed: | Inventor(s): | Atty Dkt: |
|---|----------|---------------|-----------|
| n/a | herewith | C.C.N. Callow | 1805-004 |
| Title: A CUTTING MACHINE FOR BRICK MAKING | | | |

Asst. Comm'r for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231-0001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In connection with the application identified in the caption, the applicant of which claims priority under 35 U.S.C. 119 in respect of Australian provisional application PQ7839, filed 30 May 2000, and filed in the name of Boral Bricks (NSW) Pty. Ltd., please first amend the subject application as follows, which amendments are shown in marked-up form in the attached appendix:

IN THE CLAIMS:

- 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein at least one blade is mounted adjacent a wire.
- 3. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein at least one blade has a passage through which an associated one of the wires passes.
- 6. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the or each blade engages the slug so as to form the slot along a corner of the green brick being formed.

Cancel claim 7.

Please add the following new claim:

-8. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein at least one blade engages the slug so as to form the slot along a corner of the green brick being formed.— Please delete the unnumbered claim (lines 16-18 of page 4) and add the following new claim:

—9. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein there is mounted a plurality of the blades on both beams, with the blades being arranged in pairs with each pair consisting of a blade on each of the beams and between which an associated one of the wires passes.—

REMARKS

Various amendments relating to formalities, such as multiple dependencies and grammar with respect to U.S. practice, have been made to the claims. No new matter is added.

A prompt action on the merits is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX SHOWING AMENDMENTS AS MARK-UPS

- 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein [the or each] <u>at least one</u> blade is mounted adjacent a wire.
- 3. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein [the or each] <u>at least one</u> blade has a passage through which an associated one of the wires passes.
- 6. The apparatus of claim 3 [or 4] wherein [the or each] <u>at least one</u> blade engages the slug so as to form the slot along a corner of the ["]green["] brick being formed.

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